

Appl No: 10/088,913
Attorney Docket: 3672-0144P



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michael O. THOMPSON et al. Conf.: 8909
Appl. No: 10/088,913 Art Unit: 2824
Filed: May 7, 2002 Examiner: J.H. HUR
For: NON-VOLATILE PASSIVE MATRIX DEVICE AND METHOD FOR
READOUT OF THE SAME

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 7, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Restriction Requirement dated October 7, 2003 (hereinafter "Restriction Requirement"), the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner alleged that the application contains inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. See *Restriction Requirement*, page 2,

item 3. Thus the Examiner required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-9 and 12, drawn to a memory device with a means to connect bit lines of a number of segments; and

Group II, claims 10-12, drawn to a method for readout by controlling electric potentials on word and bit lines.

Also, the Examiner alleged that the application contains claims directed to more than one species of the generic invention and deemed that the species lack unity of invention because they are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. See *Restriction Requirement, page 3, item 4.*

The Examiner alleged that the species are:

Species I, claims 1-5 and 12, drawn to Figures 5 and 8; and

Species II, claims 1, 6-9, and 12, drawn to Figures 6 and 9; with claims 1 and 12 being generic.

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The Examiner required election of a single species. See *Restriction Requirement*, page 4, item 7.

It is noted that the alleged Species I and II claims are claims that are particular to Group I only. Thus, Applicants interpret this as requiring a particular Species only if Group I is chosen. If this interpretation is in error, Applicants requests clarification from the Examiner.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Species I, claims 1-5 and 12, with claims 1 and 12 being generic.

Applicants request that the claims to additional species be considered and allowed in the event that the generic claims are allowed.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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